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Port Mahon, July 23.

THE British Fleet under the Command of Sir George Byng arrived here this Day, having been becalmed a Week in their Passage hither from the Streights. They immediately put on Shore the Regiments they brought with them to exchange our Garrison, and as those whose Room they are to supply had Notice to be ready to embark, the Admiral having sent a Frigate before for that Purpose, the Fleet will be ready to put to Sea again to Morrow or next Day at farthest, and will sail towards Naples.

Madrid, July 25. The King and Queen of Spain with the Prince of Asturias and the Infantes, continue at the Escurial in perfect Health. The Earl of Essex who is lately come into these Parts in his Travels, went thither the 21st, and waited upon his Catholick Majesty, being presented by Colonel Stanhope, Envoy Extraordinary from the King of Great Britain. Our Court having received by an Express from Italy the News of their Troops having landed in Sicily, and possest themselves without Opposition of Palermo, the Capital City of that Island, Orders were sent to our Magistrates to make publick Rejoicings for three Days upon this Occasion. An Order has been issued which is posted up in all publick Places, forbidding all Persons whatever under very severe Penalties, to hold any Correspondence with the Court of Rome; this manner of signifying the King's Pleasure is looked upon as a Mark of high Resentment, becaufe the Method of doing it heretofore upon like Occasions, has been by a private Intimation only to the Tribunals and Officers of this Court, whose Business it was to correspond with that of Rome. There being a great Quantity of false Money in Arragon, all the Coin of that Kingdom is called in and melted, and is to be re-coined into Pieces of the same Value and Denomination as those which are current in Castille. The Baron de Ripperda, who formerly resided here as Ambassadour from the States General, is returned hither from Holland, and has embraced the Roman Religion, intending to settle in this Country. The Archbishop of Tarragona and several other Prelates having undertaken to raise some Regiments of Foot at their own Expence for the King's Service, his Majesty has allowed them to appoint the Officers that are to command them. We have an Account from the Canaries, that terrible Earthquakes had been felt in those Islands, particularly those of Ferro, Forteventura, and Canaria, where the Earth had opened in several Places, and Rocks had been split by the Violence of the Shock, and that the like had happened in the Tercera Islands.

Francfort, Aug. 4. The Town and Castle of Rhynfeld having been long in the Possession of the Landgrave of Hesse Cassel, the Landgrave of Hesse Rhynfeld has set up a Claim to it as his antient Inheritance, and after a Litigation of some Years Continuance in the Imperial Courts, obtained Sentence in his Favour, and the Circle of the Upper Rhine, within whose District the said Fortress is situated, was directed to see him put into Possession, and the Neighbouring Circles to be called in to assist if there were Occasion. Endeavours were used to bring this Matter to an Accommodation; but those proving fruitless, the Troops of the Circle were ordered to be in a Readiness to put the said Sentance in Execution, and the Elector Palatine as the Chief Member of the said Circle undertaking that Affair, ordered his Troops, commanded by General Isselbach, to repair to Gehlhausen on the Borders of the Landgrave of Hesse Cassel's Territories. The Landgrave on his Side ordered all his Forces to march towards Marspurg, under the Command of General Boinenbourg, intending to defend his Possession. The Troops of the Circle consisted of 2500 Palatines, 400 Men detached from the Garrison of Mentz, and 800 Auxiliaries of the Circle of Franconia, which being accordingly assembled at their Rendezvous, did, on the 27th of the last Month, march from thence to Meinebourg, a Place belonging to the Elector of Mentz, and surrounded by the Landgrave of Hesse Cassel's Country. They passed through some Places belonging to the Landgrave without Opposition, and the Night following General Isselbach intended to have advanced further into the Landgrave's Territories, hoping to have marched undiscovered through a thick Wood, and favoured by the Darkness of the Night; but the Hessians having Intelligence of his March, he found at his quitting the Wood, 20 Squadrons of their Horse, ready to receive him, besides 1000 Foot posted in a Village hard by through which he must have passed. General Isselbach however ordered his Men to push forward, but having no more than 5 weak Squadrons of Horse, they were soon surrounded by the Hessian Horse, and cut off from their Foot. These fastening their Bayonets to the End of their Muskets would have attacked the Hessian Cavalry, but by the great Prudence of the Officers on both Sides, all further Mischief was prevented, there being but one Shot made which came from the Hessians, and did no Mischief; and all the Hurt that was done, was the killing of four or five of their Horses, the wounding of one of their Lieutenant Collonels with a Bayonet, and one of the Dragoons belonging to the Troops of the Circle receiving some Wounds. General Boinenbourg and General Isselbach conferred together, and the latter finding that the Hessians, who far out-numbered him, were resolved not to admit the Troops of the Circle, thought fit to retire; and as the Landgrave of Hesse Cassel has sent new Proposals to Vienna in order to accommodate this Affair, there is yet hopes of bringing it to an amicable Issue.

Hague